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The Rural District Council of Hexham



ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH

For the Year 1952.

J. H. MAUGHAN, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

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INDEX.

	<i>Page.</i>
PART I. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA	5
PART II. HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREA	14
PART III. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA ..	15
PART IV. HOUSING	30
PART V. SUPERVISION OF FOOD	33
PART VI. MISCELLANEOUS	34

To the Chairman and Members of the Rural District Council of Hexham :—

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1952. It is usual with this report to await the Registrar General's official figures of births and deaths which are received annually about May, but this report has been prepared from figures collected in the department.

During the year, there were 239 live births belonging to the area compared with 285 for last year. 263 deaths, including 7 deaths of children under one year of age occurred, and give a general death rate of 13.2 per thousand of the estimated population and an infant mortality rate of 29.3 per thousand live births. There is thus a slight drop in the general death rate and a slight rise in the infant mortality rate compared with last year. The latter rate however is based on small numbers and can be misleading.

Of the 263 deaths there are still more than 60% over 70 years of age and more than 70% due to malignant neoplasms or diseases of the circulatory system. Of the 7 infants deaths 6 were due to the hazards of birth and 1 due to an accident.

During the year 310 cases of notifiable diseases were notified and outstanding among them were 71 cases of whooping cough and 162 cases of measles. The places where most of the cases of whooping cough occurred were Ovingham, Stocksfield and Corbridge, and in Ovingham and Stocksfield outbreaks were fairly well defined. Measles occurred chiefly at Riding Mill, Wylam and Corbridge and the increase in incidence in December heralded a fairly widespread outbreak of the disease at the turn of the year. 24 new cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year compared with 14 new cases during 1951.

With regard to sanitary circumstances, general improvements continued throughout the year.

Water shortages were experienced during the summer months at Acomb, Allenheads, Corbridge, Gunnerton, Slaley and Whittonstall and it was necessary to improvise methods of supply. Sanitary improvements in the district, which are dependent upon an adequate water supply, remain outstanding at Acomb, Gunnerton, Fourstones and Simonburn, and housing schemes await an adequate water supply at Acomb, Corbridge, Fourstones and Gunnerton. More water will be required for further housing schemes at Humshaugh.

Water samples continued to be taken from the Council's supplies and chlorination was carried out where necessary. Water samples were also taken from both existing and proposed private supplies.

Contained in the report is the position concerning sewage disposal in the district and it will be noted that at Colwell and Ovington there is need for early action in the provision of works. At Colwell it is considered that sewage may be contaminating the Council water supply, and at Ovington the Cockermere Burn acts as an open sewer from the Ovington Tip to the river and is in a very dirty state.

During the year privy conversion schemes continued to be carried out, and the Council's scavenging service continued as for last year with further extensions.

Remaining outstanding among matters which require attention, is the shack development which has taken place in the Ovington and Ovingham area. Here there are some 600 caravans, bungalows and other erections to which people come from all parts of Tyneside, and in summer they must accommodate some 2,000 persons. These properties are without proper means of sewage and refuse disposal, and water is drawn from various sources. Considerable progress has been made during the last 5 years surveying these sites, scheduling areas and drawing up plans for a properly sewered site, and details of work carried out to date are contained within the report. I would strongly urge the Council to see through to fruition some policy concerning these shacks and so remove what I consider is at present a constant menace to public health.

Finally in the report there is a table summarising the sanitary improvements which are recorded as having been effected since 1946. As this work has been carried out on existing property it can be appreciated that there is steady progress in the improvement of conditions and amenities in houses in the rural district.

In concluding this report, may I record with deep regret the death of the late Mr. R. C. Heslop on 18th October, 1952. Mr. Heslop served the Rural District Council of Hexham since September, 1935, and from July, 1949, was Chief Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor to the Council.

My thanks are due to my staff for their ready response to all public health matters with which the department has dealt and also to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for the interest they have shown and for their unfailing support during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. H. MAUGHAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

PART 1.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in Acres	..	..	..	..	..	..	196,030
Estimated Population, 1952	..	..	..	..	..	..	20,540

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

Live Births—	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate ..	117	117	234
Illegitimate ..	4	1	5

DEATHS.

Deaths from puerperal causes—

Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	..	..	..	Nil.
Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still) Births	..	..	..	..	Nil.

Deaths from Malignant Neoplasms (all ages)	..	..	..	47
„ „ Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	Nil.
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	..	Nil.
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	..	..	..	Nil.

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (all causes and all ages)	12.79
--	----	----	----	----	----	-------

The following Table classifies deaths according to their age groups in each Sub-District, and also as to their certification :—

AGE GROUP	ALLENDALE				BYWELL				HEXHAM				Totals.	
	Cert-ified		Un-Cert-ified		Cert-ified		Un-Cert-ified		Cert-ified		Un-Cert-ified			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	4	3
1-2	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
2-5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-15	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	1
15-25	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	2
25-45	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	4	3	—	—	4	7
45-50	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
50-55	1	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	5	2
55-60	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	5	2	—	—	7	2
60-75	3	3	—	—	1	4	—	1	5	6	1	—	10	14
65-70	4	5	—	—	4	1	—	2	3	4	1	—	12	12
70-75	3	5	—	—	8	9	—	—	9	4	1	—	25	18
75-80	3	8	—	—	8	6	—	—	10	8	1	—	22	22
80-85	3	4	2	1	5	11	—	—	6	10	1	1	17	33
85-90	2	2	—	—	1	5	—	—	5	6	—	—	8	13
90-95	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	1	—	3	—	—	3	5
95-100	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	22	30	5	1	35	44	5	6	53	54	5	3	125	138
	TOTAL												263	

TOTAL .. 263

Infant Mortality during Year ending December 31st, 1952

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Total deaths under 1 year.
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Croup	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pul. Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abdominal Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (all forms)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	2	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Premature Birth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marasmus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Injury at birth	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Appendicitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Infant Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accident	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
All causes (Certified.	5	1	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	6
(Uncertified	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
GRAND TOTALS	5	1	—	—	6	—	1	—	—	7

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1952

Notifiable Disease.	Cases Notified in Whole District													Total Cases notified in each Sub-District		
	At all Ages	Un-der												Allendale	Bywell	Hexham
		1	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—25	25—35	35—45	45—65			
													65 and over			Age unknown
Scarlet Fever ..	24	—	—	—	1	3	16	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	21
Whooping Cough ..	71	6	4	13	7	13	24	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	53	18
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ..	162	2	10	26	7	13	91	8	3	2	2	2	—	3	97	62
Pneumonia ..	18	—	—	—	1	2	2	1	1	—	—	7	—	4	7	7
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Dysentery ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	1	—
Smallpox ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ..	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4
Food Poisoning ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
TOTALS ..	286	8	14	40	16	31	134	13	2	7	9	11	—	8	164	114
																286

TUBERCULOSIS.—New case and Mortality during 1952 :—

Age periods	New Cases				Nett Deaths in Hexham Rural District			
	Pulmonary		Non. Pulm.		Pulmonary		Non. Pulm.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	3	4	1	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
45—55	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55—65	2	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
65 & over	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	11	8	4	1	2	—	—	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1928-1952.

Year.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria	Measles.	Pneumonia.	Cerebrospinal Fever.	Acute Polio-myelitis.	Acute Polio-encephalitis.	Acute Encephalitis Lethargica.	Dysentery.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Smallpox.	Paratyphoid Fevers.	Enteric or Typhoid	Erysipelas.	Food Poisoning.
1928	14	—	—	—	8	—	1	—	—	1	2	4	1	—	—	9	—
1929	18	—	—	—	39	—	1	—	1	6	—	5	—	—	—	19	—
1930	17	—	—	—	20	1	—	—	—	—	1	6	—	—	3	14	—
1931	29	—	10	—	24	—	—	—	—	4	3	1	—	—	3	14	—
1932	18	—	14	—	29	—	1	—	—	2	1	6	1	—	—	9	—
1933	26	—	1	—	42	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	—	—	4	8	—
1934	126	—	10	—	19	1	—	—	—	1	1	3	—	—	1	4	—
1935	72	—	16	—	17	—	—	—	—	3	3	4	—	—	1	8	—
1936	107	—	48	—	26	1	1	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	2	13	—
1937	32	—	4	—	33	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	6	—
1938	53	—	13	—	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	4	—
1939	62	7	28	7	15	—	—	—	—	—	8	11	—	—	2	8	—
1940	17	11	10	170	14	8	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	4	—
1941	11	59	13	91	16	3	—	—	—	1	9	17	—	—	7	7	—
1942	13	1	7	65	11	3	—	—	—	12	8	13	—	—	—	3	—
1943	23	24	4	114	20	1	—	—	—	7	10	18	—	—	—	6	—
1944	29	28	4	32	5	—	—	—	—	5	15	17	—	—	—	5	—
1945	36	18	8	23	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	5	—
1946	21	45	9	81	15	1	3	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	2	—
1947	4	33	6	208	8	—	8	—	—	1	—	9	—	—	—	—	—
1948	29	56	1	81	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	1	—	4	—
1949	18	22	—	146	12	—	4	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	6	10
1950	31	99	—	255	26	—	2	—	—	1	—	10	—	—	—	9	1
1951	14	45	—	220	32	3	1	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	2	1
1952	24	71	—	162	18	—	1	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	5	—

CASES OF MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH DURING 1952.

DISTRICT.	MEASLES												WHOOPING COUGH													
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Allenheads	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Allendale	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carrshield	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Catton ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Haydon Bridge	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Langley..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ninebanks	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Blanchland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Ovingham	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	—	2	4	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	10
Riding Mill	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	5	
Shotley Bridge..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stocksfield	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	8	—	7	12	4	6	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	35
Wylam ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	34	19	60	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Acomb	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	17	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barrasford	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Birtley	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Colwell	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Corbridge	—	3	—	4	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	7	18	—	2	—	—	4	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	3
Fourstones	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	2	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14
Gunnerton	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Hallington	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hexhamshire	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Humshaugh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Simonburn	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Slaley ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wall ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wark ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whittington	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	—	5	1	6	4	3	14	20	1	7	36	65	162	4	13	13	8	13	6	1	1	5	2	—	5	71

**ANNUAL RETURN OF FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATIONS.
YEAR, 1952.**

FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATIONS RETURNED TO R.G.

1ST QRTR.	2ND QRTR.	3RD QRTR.	4TH QRTR.	TOTAL.
Nil.	Nil.	1	Nil.	1
OUTBREAKS DUE TO IDENTIFIED AGENTS ..				Nil.
OUTBREAKS OF UNDISCOVERED CAUSE ..				Nil.

SINGLE CASES :—

Agent identified..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Unknown cause	..	..	..	..	..	Nil.
TOTAL ..						<hr/> 1 <hr/>

PART II.—HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREA.

(1) HOSPITALS.

There are in the district five hospitals under the management of the Hexham and District Hospital Management Committee. These comprise the Charlotte Straker Hospital and the Bridge End Maternity Hospitals at Corbridge, the Dilston Maternity Hospital, Barrasford Sanatorium and Wooley Sanatorium. These hospitals together with the Hexham General Hospital, the Hexham War Memorial Hospital and the Newcastle group of hospitals are available to cases from the area.

Cases of infectious disease requiring admission to hospital are referred to the City Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Newcastle upon Tyne.

(2) AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The British Red Cross acting as agents for the Northumberland County Council provide an ambulance service which serves the district. Ambulance Stations are situated at Corbridge and at Hexham.

(3) HOME HELP SERVICE.

The Northumberland County Council Home Help Service is in operation in the district. Home Helps are available to households where such help is required owing to illness or confinement, and their services are obtained through the office of the West Area Health Sub-Committee, Prospect House, Hexham.

(4) MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CLINICS.

The following Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics are held by the Northumberland County Council in the district :—

Child Welfare Clinics.

Allendale	..	..	Dr. Clayburns' Surgery. Second Monday in month, 1-30—4 p.m.
Corbridge	..	..	Parish Hall, Princes Street. Alternate Tuesdays : 9-30 a.m.—12 noon. 1-30 p.m.—4 p.m.
Haydon Bridge	..	..	Church Hall. Alternate Mondays : 9-30 a.m.—12 noon. 1-30 p.m.—4 p.m.
Humshaugh	..	..	Village Hall. Every fourth Thursday, 1-30—4 p.m.
Newbrough	..	..	Women's Institute. Alternate Wednesdays, 1-30—4 p.m.
Riding Mill	..	..	Parish Hall. Alternate Thursdays, 1-30—4 p.m.
Stocksfield	..	..	Red Cross Hut. Alternate Mondays : 9-30 a.m.—12 noon. 1-30 p.m.—4 p.m.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

Allendale	..	..	Dr. Clayburn's Surgery. Alternate Tuesdays, 1-30—4 p.m.
Stocksfield	..	..	Red Cross Hut. Every fourth Tuesday, 1-30—4 p.m.

(5) MIDWIFERY AND HOME NURSING SERVICE.

These services are now administered by the Northumberland County Council and in this area are combined. There are nine Nurse Midwives working in the Hexham Rural District.

REPORT OF CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR.

PART III.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Acomb Parish.

The village of Acomb is supplied by the Council, the quality of the water being satisfactory. The quantity available is sufficient in winter, but totally insufficient in dry weather, and the installation of the new scheme (Hexhamshire—Acomb) is of the greatest urgency.

To augment the supply, main's water was carted to the reservoir from 11th June to 10th October.

Oakwood lies partly in Acomb and partly in Sandhoe parishes. The water supply is privately owned and is inadequate. Oakwood is included in the area of the new scheme for Hexhamshire—Acomb.

The Council gave assistance in the distribution of water to areas which were short during the year.

Allendale Parish.

Allendale Town and Catton are supplied by the Council. The quality of the water is satisfactory and the quantity is sufficient.

The Old Town area is very badly served and the Ministry of Health held a private enquiry in 1949 into a scheme to boost mains water to a service reservoir. Approval of the scheme is being awaited.

The Council also supply Ropehaugh area of Allenheads. The quantity is insufficient and it is proposed to augment the supply from a new source.

Broomhaugh Parish.

The village of Broomhaugh is supplied by the Council. The quality is satisfactory and the supply is generally sufficient.

Broomley Parish.

Stocksfield and New Ridley are adequately supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co.

Broomley village has a private supply owned by the Northumberland County Council, which is adequate.

Chollerton Parish.

Barrasford village has a private supply which is generally sufficient.

Colwell village is supplied by the Council. There is an ample supply at the springs pumped by Hydraulic ram and electric pump to a water tower in the village.

Samples taken during the year showed intermittent pollution, and the supply is permanently chlorinated.

Gunnerton village is supplied by the Council ; more water is required.

Corbridge Parish.

Corbridge is supplied by the Council, but the distribution is inade-

quate for the present and future needs of the village. This difficulty will be overcome when the Hexhamshire—Acomb Scheme is installed.

The Middle spring at Holly Hall intermittently shows slight contamination and the water is being excluded in the meantime.

Hallington Parish.

The village of Hallington is served partly by a private piped supply, and partly by wells.

The piped supply is sufficient to serve all the houses in the village.

Haydon Parish.

Haydon Bridge is supplied by the Council. The quality is satisfactory and the quantity is sufficient for present needs.

Langley (Hill Top) is supplied by a well. There is no proper piped supply for these 8 houses.

Healey Parish.

Healey is served principally by wells.

Hedley Parish.

Hedley-on-the-Hill—The Council supply the village with water from a spring at North Farm which is augmented by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co., by pumping to a reservoir south of the village. The supply is generally sufficient.

Hexham Low Quarter.

Part of the parish is supplied from the Council's supply at Slaley. There is insufficient water in the dry season.

The new Hexhamshire—Acomb scheme will give a supply to part of the Parish of Hexham Low Quarter.

Horsley Parish.

The Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co. supply the village and the houses and farms surrounding it.

Humshaugh Parish.

The village of Humshaugh is supplied by the Council. The quality of the water is not altogether satisfactory. The quantity is insufficient during dry periods.

Newbrough Parish.

The Council supply the village of Newbrough. The quality is satisfactory. This supply has been supplemented from Mr. Newall's ram chamber, but the erection of additional houses in the village will probably necessitate the provision of greater storage.

Settlingstones Mines cottages have a private supply which is sufficient and satisfactory.

The Woodbine area is supplied by the Council, but the quantity is insufficient.

Newton Parish.

The village has a private supply, but the quantity is not sufficient for future needs.

Newton Hall Parish.

The quantity of water available from the private supply is insufficient for modern sanitation.

Ovingham Parish.

Is adequately supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co.

Ovington Parish.

The village is adequately supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co.

Riding Parish.

Riding Mill is supplied by Riding Mill Estate Co., and the supply is generally sufficient.

Sandhoe Parish.

The villages of Sandhoe and Anick have private supplies which are insufficient. They are both included in the new Hexhamshire—Acomb scheme.

Oakwood—See Acomb Parish.

Shotley High Quarter.

Blanchland is supplied by the Lord Crewe Trustees and the supply is generally sufficient.

Shotley Low Quarter.

The Snods has a private supply which is generally sufficient.

Simonburn Parish.

Simonburn village has a private supply which is insufficient.

Nunwick Town Head has a private supply which is adequate.

Slaley Parish.

Slaley is supplied by the Council but the supply is insufficient in dry seasons. As this area has now been excluded from the Hexhamshire-Acomb Scheme, other means will have to be found to supplement the supply.

Wall Parish.

Wall village is supplied by the Council. The quality is satisfactory and the quantity sufficient for present demands.

Warden Parish.

Hardhaugh has a private supply which is adequate.

Fourstones—The old village of Fourstones has a private supply which is adequate.

The remainder of the village is supplied by a private supply which is inadequate.

West Allen Parish.

Ninebanks and Carrshield villages are each partly supplied by private piped supplies.

Great Whittington Parish.

The village is supplied by the Council. The quality is not entirely satisfactory. The quantity is sufficient for present needs. The supply is subject to intermittent pollution and to being chlorinated.

Whittonstall Parish.

The village still depends on a well from which water is pumped by hand.

Water was carted by the Council during the drought.

Wylam Parish.

The area is adequately supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co.

WATER SUPPLIES : FUTURE POSITION.

Hexhamshire—Acomb Scheme.

In order to obtain the Ministry's approval for the scheme to go forward, modifications were made to the original plan and it was found necessary to exclude the parts of Hexham Middle Quarter which had been included and also the village of Slaley. The springs at King's Law will not be used and the only source of supply is now the springs at Moor Gair.

This amended scheme has now been approved.

Allendale (Old Town) Scheme.

The final approval of this scheme has not yet been received.

The following proposals with regard to improvements to water supplies in other parts of the District have been considered and approved by the Council.

1. Proposals for Colwell, Barrasford, Chollerton, Humshaugh, Wall and Gunnerton.

To supply water from springs at Colwell to Barrasford, Chollerton, Humshaugh and Wall by gravity and to instal a booster pump at Barrasford to supply Gunnerton.

2. Proposal for Whittington.

To supply Whittington from the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company's pipe line at Matfen.

3. Proposal for Whittonstall.

To pump a supply to Whittonstall and Newlands from the Durham County Water Board's mains at Ebchester.

4. Proposal for Whittle-Dene to Haydon Bridge.

To pump water from Newcastle and Gateshead Filter Station at Whittle Dene to a reservoir at Newton Hall, to give a gravity supply to Stelling, Newton Hall, Newton, Thornbrough, Corbridge, Sandhoe, Anick, Oakwood, Acomb, Warden, Fourstones, Newbrough, Allerwash, Brokenheugh and Haydon Bridge.

5. Proposal for Riding Mill and Broomhaugh.

To supply Riding Mill and Broomhaugh by an extension of the main from Farnley, Corbridge.

When the scheme from Whittle Dene (No. 6) is installed, the pump at Holly Hill in scheme No. 1 would not be required as it will then be possible to give a gravity feed from Newton Hall reservoir to the area supplied by that pump.

Scheme No. 7 would also be dependent on the installation of the Whittle Dene scheme and water from Hexhamshire would then be diverted to Riding Mill and Broomhaugh.

The proposals outlined above were submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government. In his reply, the Minister stated that each proposal would be considered on its merits when submitted for approval.

Regular gaugings are being taken of all springs required for the above schemes.

Simonburn.

Gaugings taken of springs at Sharpley with a view to supplying the village from this source indicate that the supply is insufficient during dry periods.

SUMMARY OF SOURCES OF WATER SUPPLIED TO HOUSES IN HEXHAM R.D.C.

PARISH.			WATER SUPPLY							
	1931 1949		Council.		N/cle. and Gateshead Water Co.		Piped Private supplies.		Springs & Wells.	
	Census		Pop.	Hses.	Pop.	Hses.	Pop.	Hses.	Pop.	Hses.
Acomb	929	311	660	230	—	—	216	66	53	15
Allendale	2218	760	1157	406	—	—	476	201	585	153
Aydon	91	19	—	—	—	—	79	18	12	1
Aydon Castle	11	3	—	—	—	—	7	2	7	1
Bearle	47	9	—	—	—	—	47	9	—	—
Bingfield	64	24	12	4	—	—	46	18	6	2
Blackarts & Rychill	11	2	—	—	—	—	11	2	—	—
Broomhaugh	230	81	198	73	—	—	28	7	4	1
Broomley	1741	623	—	—	1575	570	152	47	14	6
Bywell	161	37	—	—	—	—	161	37	—	—
Chollerton	1192	291	373	95	—	—	595	140	224	56
Clarewood	66	21	—	—	—	—	48	16	18	5
Cocklaw	143	36	—	—	—	—	117	27	26	9
Corbridge	2050	791	1743	691	—	—	220	72	87	28
Dilston	223	62	35	9	—	—	177	50	11	3
Dukeshagg	6	1	—	—	—	—	6	1	—	—
Espershields	124	31	—	—	—	—	112	30	12	4
Fallowfield	28	7	—	—	—	—	20	5	8	2
Hallington	69	21	—	—	—	—	33	10	36	11
Halton	21	7	—	—	—	—	10	4	11	3
Haughton	85	23	—	—	—	—	67	17	18	6
Haydon	2050	662	1338	450	—	—	520	153	192	59
Healey	103	23	—	—	—	—	50	11	53	12
Hedley	343	58	243	42	—	—	94	16	6	—
Hexham High Qr.	118	39	—	—	—	—	88	29	30	10
Hexham Low Qr.	328	91	154	45	—	—	141	36	33	10
Hexham Middle Qr.	197	70	—	—	—	—	169	62	28	8
Hexham West Qr.	95	23	3	1	—	—	85	20	7	2
High Fotherley	62	15	—	—	—	—	62	15	—	—
Horsley	322	105	—	—	318	104	—	—	4	1
Humshaugh	394	137	283	107	—	—	107	28	4	2
Nafferton	34	11	—	—	—	—	34	11	—	—
Newbrough	656	174	200	49	—	—	394	110	62	15
Newlands	113	26	—	—	—	—	63	15	50	11
Newton	123	27	—	—	—	—	123	27	—	—
Newton Hall	127	33	—	—	—	—	127	33	—	—
Ovingham	393	124	—	—	389	108	—	14	4	2
Ovington	470	432	—	—	460	187	—	242	10	3
Portgate	83	16	—	—	—	—	80	15	3	1
Riding	398	136	—	—	—	—	398	136	—	—
Sandhoe	355	107	—	—	—	—	332	100	23	7
Shotley High Qr.	207	64	—	—	—	—	163	52	44	12
Shotley Low Qr.	427	117	—	—	—	—	344	92	83	25
Simonburn	344	94	—	—	—	—	302	83	42	11
Slaley	648	159	516	124	—	—	100	28	32	7
Spittle	6	6	—	—	—	—	6	6	—	—
Stelling	53	12	—	—	—	—	36	8	17	4
Styford	66	17	—	—	—	—	58	15	8	2
Thornbrough	56	14	—	—	—	—	52	13	4	1
Wall	305	118	193	78	—	—	81	30	31	10
Warden	748	226	—	—	—	—	700	213	48	13
Welton	41	12	—	—	—	—	36	10	8	2
West Allen	394	119	—	—	—	—	138	41	256	78
Whittington Great	178	54	142	42	—	—	27	9	9	3
Whittington Little	8	3	—	—	—	—	8	3	—	—
Whittle	22	5	—	—	22	5	—	—	—	—
Whittonstall	184	41	—	—	—	—	78	16	106	25
Wylam	1279	452	—	—	1273	450	—	—	6	2
TOTALS	21246	6985	7250	2446	4037	1424	7624	2471	2335	644

PRIVATE PIPED SUPPLIES SERVING MORE THAN 10 HOUSES.

PARISH.	No. of houses on supply.	NAME OF SYSTEM.	REMARKS.
Acomb	27	Oakwood*	Insufficient
	12	Riding	Generally sufficient
Blackcarts & Rychill	2	Teppermoor*	Generally sufficient
Broomley	25	Broomley Village	Sufficient
Bywell... ..	12	Bywell Hall	Sufficient
Chollerton	17	Tone Hall (Chipchase)	Sufficient
	10	Great Swinburne	Sufficient
	12	Barrasford Quarry	Sufficient
	37	Barrasford Village	Sufficient
Corbridge	4	Stagshaw*	Sufficient
Dilston	30	Dilston Hall	Sufficient
Espershields	19	Minster Acres*	Sufficient
Haughton	15	Haughton Castle	Sufficient
Hexhamshire High Qr.	12	Kings Law*	Distribution poor
Hexhamshire Middle Qr.	33	Kings Law*	"
Humshaugh	19	Plane Trees & Chesters	Sufficient
	1	Teppermoor*	Sufficient
Newbrough	24	Settlingstones	Sufficient
	15	Carr Edge	Sufficient
	23	Butt Bank*	Insufficient
	17	Allerwash	Sufficient
	10	Wharmley	Sufficient
Newton	20	Newton Village	Sufficient
Newton Hall	24	Newton Hall	Sufficient
Riding Mill	100	Riding Estate	Sufficient
Sandhoe	23	Anick	Insufficient
	16	Sandhoe	Insufficient
	9	Oakwood*	Insufficient
	7	Stagshaw*	Sufficient
Shotley High Qr.	40	Blanchland	Sufficient
Shotley Low Qr.	14	Shotley Field	Sufficient
	5	Minsteracres*	Sufficient
Simonburn	21	Simonburn	Insufficient
	15	Nunwick	Sufficient
	3	Teppermoor*	Sufficient
Slaley	11	Trygill	Sufficient
	10	Slaley Hall	Sufficient
Warden	96	Fourstones	Insufficient
	17	Teppermoor*	Sufficient
	16	Warden Hill	Sufficient
	16	Warden Paper Mill	Sufficient
	12	High Warden	Sufficient
	9	Butt Bank*	Insufficient

Supplies included above marked * feed houses in more than one parish, and are summarised below :—

Oakwood supply feeds 27 houses in Acomb Parish and 10 in Sandhoe Parish	Houses 37
Teppermoor supply feeds 2 houses in Blackcarts, 1 in Humshaugh, 3 in Simonburn and 17 in Warden	23
Stagshaw supply feeds 4 houses in Corbridge and 7 in Sandhoe	11
Minsteracres supply feeds 19 houses in Espershields and 5 in Shotley Low Quarter	24
King's Law supply feeds 12 houses in Hexham High Quarter and 33 in Hexham Middle Quarter	45
Butt Bank supply feeds 23 houses in Newbrough and 9 in Warden	32

PRIVATE SUPPLY (not piped) SERVING MORE THAN 10 HOUSES.

Whittonstall. 24 houses in the village are supplied from a pump, and the supply is totally inadequate.

All other private supplies in the district, not referred to above serve less than 10 houses.

SUMMARY OF WATER SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE YEAR.**1. COUNCIL SUPPLIES.**

No.	SUPPLY	No. of Samples		No. Satisfactory		No. Unsatisf'y		Total Samples taken.
		Bact.	Chem-ical.	Bact.	Chem-ical.	Bact.	Chem-ical.	
1.	Acomb ...	3	—	3	—	—	—	3
2.	Allendale ...	2	—	2	—	—	—	2
3.	Ropehaugh ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
4.	Broomhaugh ...	2	—	2	—	—	—	2
5.	Colwell ...	7	—	7	—	—	—	7
6.	Corbridge ...	22	—	19	—	3	—	22
7.	Gunnerton ...	6	—	3	—	3	—	6
8.	Haydon Bridge ...	4	—	4	—	—	—	4
9.	Hedley ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10.	Humshaugh ...	18	—	14	—	4	—	18
11.	Newbrough ...	8	—	8	—	—	—	8
12.	Woodbine ...	3	—	3	—	—	—	3
13.	Slaley ...	2	—	2	—	—	—	2
14.	Wall ...	6	—	5	—	1	—	6
15.	Whittington ...	10	—	7	—	3	—	10
16.	Bingfield ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		94	—	80	—	14	—	94

Corbridge, Gunnerton & Wall.

The contamination shown was temporary. The reports of samples taken subsequently were found to be satisfactory.

Humshaugh and Whittington.

Contamination of these two supplies takes place after heavy or continual rainfall and continues over longer periods. Both supplies are chlorinated whilst the pollution persists.

PRIVATE SUPPLIES.

SUPPLY	No. of Samples		No. Satisfactory		No. Unsatisf't'y		Total Samples taken
	Bact.	Chem-ical.	Bact.	Chem-ical.	Bact.	Chem-ical.	
St. Peters School,							
Sparty Lea ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
High Scotch Hall,							
Allendale	2	—	1	—	1	—	2
Oakwood	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
The Riding, Acomb	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Low Shilford, Broom-							
haugh	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Bywell.. ..	18	—	4	—	14	—	18
Broomley	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Lauder Grange, Cor-							
bridge	3	—	2	—	1	—	3
Village Patts, Cor-							
bridge	3	—	3	—	—	—	3
Chipchase	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Great Swinburne ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Barrasford Sanatorium	2	—	2	—	—	—	2
Stagshaw, Corbridge	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Barrasford Quarry ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Barrasford Village ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Langley Castle ..	4	—	3	—	1	—	4
Butt Bank, New-							
brough	7	—	4	—	3	—	7
Newton High House	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Newton Village ..	2	—	—	—	2	—	2
Settlingstones ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Ferrylanding Field,							
Ovington	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
The Hermitage,							
Ovingham	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Trygill	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Riding Mill	2	—	2	—	—	—	2
Simonburn Rectory	5	—	2	—	3	—	5
Anick	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Sandhoe	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Simonburn	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Widehaugh, Hexham	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Fourstones	3	—	3	—	—	—	3
Mohope, West Allen	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
High Warden ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
	72	—	46	—	26	—	72

Bywell.

Samples taken from this supply have shown it to be heavily contaminated. It has now been discontinued and an alternative supply has been obtained from the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company.

Butt Bank, Newbrough.

Investigation of this supply is being made at present.

Simonburn Rectory.

This supply was inspected and suggested repairs carried out at the collecting point. Subsequent samples have proved satisfactory.

Newton Village.

This supply was unsatisfactory and subject to intermittent pollution. A new supply has been provided from a bore hole at Newton Nigh House.

PROPOSED SUPPLIES.

SUPPLY	No. of Samples		No. Satisfactory		No. Unsatisf't'y		Total Samples taken
	Bact.	Chemical.	Bact.	Chemical.	Bact.	Chemical.	
Cleugh Head, Allendale	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Swinburne Mill	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Winnowshill, Espershields	3	—	2	—	1	—	3
Lilswood Chapel	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Goatstones, Simonburn	1	1	1	1	—	—	2
Settlingstones Mines	1	1	1	1	—	—	2
Coalpitts Grange	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
The Craggs, Wall	2	—	1	—	1	—	2
	11	2	9	2	2	—	13

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.**Acomb Parish.**

The village of Acomb is adequately sewered and the works consist of settling tanks and bacteria beds with rotary sprinklers.

Oakwood is sewered and the sewerage system also serves Anick (Sandhoe Parish). The works consist of a settling tank and bacteria bed.

Allendale Parish.

Allendale Town and Catton Village (except Wentworth Terrace) are sewered to a works near Catton. The works consist of settling tanks, bacteria beds with rotary sprinklers and land treatment.

Wentworth Terrace is sewered to a small settling tank and bacteria bed.

Allenheads and Ropehaugh—There are no public sewers. A portion of Allenheads village is sewered to a septic tank. Many of the other drains deliver into the River East Allen. A scheme is required.

Broomhaugh and Riding Parishes.

There is an adequate system of sewers and a sewage works (settling tanks and bacteria beds). The whole of the sewage is pumped.

Broomley Parish.

Broomley village is sewered to a works consisting of settling tanks and bacteria beds.

Stockfield and New Ridley are sewered to a works consisting of settling tanks and bacteria beds. This works requires extension.

Chollerton.

Barrasford village is sewered to a works (settling tanks and bacteria beds).

Colwell village—A small portion is sewered to a settling tank. A scheme is required.

Gunnerton village is sewered to a works consisting of settling tanks and bacteria beds.

Corbridge Parish.

Most of Corbridge is sewered. The drainage from the remainder of the houses either goes into the River Tyne or into cesspools.

There is a small works (tanks and bacteria beds) dealing with the sewage at Farnley, but the bulk of the sewage goes into the River Tyne untreated.

A scheme is required.

Hallington Parish.

The village of Hallington is provided with a sewer leading to a settling tank.

Haydon Parish.

Haydon Bridge is mostly sewered, but Brigwood Bungalows have soakaways on the river bank, and Chesterwood sewage goes into a ditch. The bulk of the sewage goes direct into the South tyne.

A scheme has been approved by the Ministry of Health, the requisite land purchased, but permission to commence the work has not yet been received.

Langley Mill Head and Sawmill Cottages have no proper sewers or works.

Haughton Parish.

The drainage from Haughton Castle district goes to a works (settling tanks and filters) near the old papermill.

Hedley Parish.

The village is sewered to a works consisting of settling tanks and bacteria beds.

Hexham Low Quarter.

Juniper is sewered to a works (settling tank and bacteria bed).

Horsley Parish.

Horsley village is sewered. A works is provided but this requires renovation.

Humshaugh Parish.

Humshaugh village has an old system of sewers discharging into a stone conduit, thence to the North Tyne.

A scheme is required.

Newbrough Parish.

Newbrough village is sewered, but there is no treatment. Settling-stones is sewered to a septic tank which is now inadequate.

Newton Parish.

Sewers are provided in the village but they discharge into a stream.

Newton Hall Parish.

Sewers are provided in the village, but there is not treatment.

Ovingham Parish.

The village is sewered and there are two separate works.

Ovington Parish.

The village is sewered, but there is no treatment of the sewage which goes into an open runner leading to the River Tyne. A scheme is required.

Riding Parish.

See Broomhaugh Parish.

Sandhoe Parish.

Sandhoe Village—There are drains and a private sewer.

Anick village and Oakwood are sewered to a works consisting of settling tanks and bacteria bed.

Shotley High Quarter Parish.

Blanchland—There is no piped sewerage system, but the sewage, carried by piped drains and small enclosed conduits, causes no nuisance. There is a constant flow of water through the system.

Shotley Low Quarter Parish.

The Snods—There is no proper sewerage system.

Simonburn Parish.

Simonburn village has no proper sewerage system.

Slaley Parish.

The village is sewered to a works consisting of settling tanks and bacteria beds.

Wall Parish.

The village is sewered to a works consisting of settling tanks and bacteria beds.

Warden Parish.

Hardhaugh Cottages have a sewer which delivers into the South Tyne.

Fourstones village—The new houses and part of the old village are sewered to a septic tank. The rest of the village has no proper sewerage system. A scheme is required.

West Allen Parish.

Carrshield and Ninebanks villages—No proper sewerage systems exist.

Great Whittington Parish.

There are sewers leading to settling tanks.

Whittonstal Parish.

No proper sewerage system.

Wylam Parish.

North and South Wylam are principally served by piped sewers but the sewage is discharged untreated into the River Tyne.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL : WORKS REQUIRED.**Requiring Immediate Attention.**

- | | |
|----------|---|
| COLWELL | Methods of sewage disposal at present in use may be causing pollution of the Council's water supply. |
| OVINGTON | The Cockermere burn from the tip at Ovington to the river Tyne is acting as an open sewer. The burn is in a very dirty state. |

Requiring attention with housing schemes.

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| NEWBROUGH | At present sewage is emptying from a sewer into a stream. |
|-----------|---|

Requiring attention in future when possible.

HAYDON BRIDGE.
CORBRIDGE.
WYLAM.
FOURSTONES.
ROPEHAUGH.

Require attention but dependent upon provision of adequate water supply.

SIMONBURN.
WHITTONSTALL.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

Almost all the houses in the following places have water closets :—

Allendale	Anick	Broomhaugh
Corbridge	Oakwood	Ovingham
Riding Mill	Settlingstones	Stocksfield
Wall	Wylam	Catton
Humshaugh		

The greater part of the houses in the following places have water closets :—

Acomb	Blanchland	Haydon Bridge
Healey	Sandhoe	Juniper
Newbrough	Whittington	Slaley

In the following places the greater part of the houses have privies or pail closets :—

Allenheads	Barrasford	Carrshield
Colwell	Fourstones	Gunnerton
Hallington	Hedley	Horsley
Newton	Newton Hall	Ninebanks
Ovington	Simonburn	

PRIVY CONVERSIONS.

During the year, privy conversion schemes were carried out at Catton, Allendale and Humshaugh.

A Tender has been accepted for the conversion of the remaining privies in Ovingham, but work has not yet begun.

Similar schemes for Haydon Bridge, Broomhaugh and Riding Mill are in the course of preparation.

REMOVAL OF HOUSEHOLD REFUSE.

During the year, the scavenging service has been extended to include the villages of Whittonstall and Blanchland.

The service at Hedley, Warden, Fourstones, Newbrough and Settlingstones, formerly let to Contract is now carried out by the Council's own wagons.

Details of the present service are summarised below.

Collection by Council's Wagons.

Area.	Houses.	Area.	Houses.
Oakwood (weekly)	46	Fourstones	
Anick	16	Newbrough, Settlingstones	264
Wall	80	Riding Mill	121
Humshaugh	91	Broomhaugh	57
Corbridge	737	Slaley	73
Wylam	446	Sandhoe, Stagshaw	58
Walwick & Lincoln Hill	36	Stocksfield	543
Hedley	39	Juniper (fortnightly)	51
Warden	57	Whittonstall	24
		Blanchland	39

Total—2,778 Houses.

Collection by Contractors on behalf of the Council.

Area.	Houses.	Area.	Houses.
Acomb	248	Horsley	80
Allendale & Catton	343	Ovingham	207
Haydon Bridge	421	Ovington	134

Total—1,430 Houses.

Total number of houses in District	..	..	..	..	6,985
Total number of houses scavenged	..	..	..	..	4,208
Percentage of houses scavenged by Direct Labour	..	..	..	..	40 ⁰ / ₁₀₀
Percentage of houses scavenged by Contract	..	..	..	..	20 ⁰ / ₁₀₀
Percentage of houses scavenged	..	..	..	..	60 ⁰ / ₁₀₀

There is no public service in the following places :—

Allenheads	Langley
Broomley Village	Newton
Barrasford	Newton Hall
Colwell	Simonburn
Gunnerton	Whittington
Hallington	Carrsfield
Healey	Ninebanks

It is anticipated that the Council will obtain delivery of a further Refuse wagon early in 1953. This will enable the scavenging of the Haydon Bridge area to be carried out by direct labour and also to extend the service to those villages which are not yet being scavenged.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

1. Agricultural Premises—Treated by A.E.C.

No. of Inspections	Major Infestations	Minor Infestations	Clear
379	97	157	125

2. Other Premises—Treated by Council.

Type of Premises	Number of Treatments	Dead Rats Recovered	Dead Mice Recovered
Refuse Tips ..	34	245	—
Sewers & Sewage Works ..	37	6	—
Private Houses ..	243	162	88
Other Property ..	2	12	—
	316	425	88

Sewers.

10% Test Baiting of sewers was carried out at :—

Haydon Bridge, Allendale, Anick, Acomb, Riding Mill, Stocksfield, Slaley, Catton, Gunnerton, Humshaugh, Barrasford, Fourstones, Newbrough, Colwell, Hallington, Hedley, Ovingham, Ovington, Corbridge, Wylam, Horsley.

There were takes at only 12 manholes, indicating that infestation of sewers is very small.

Tips.

There has been marked reduction in the infestation of refuse tips. Although there have been more treatments given, the number of dead rats recovered after poisoning was considerably less than half the number recovered last year.

PART IV.—HOUSING.

HOUSES COMPLETED DURING 1952.

				With State Assistance	Unaided	Total
(a)	By Local Authority .. ..	..	..	46	—	46
	Haydon Bridge	10				
	Acomb	28				
	Ovingham	8				
(b)	By other bodies or persons .. ..	..	..	—	7	7
						<hr/> 53

HOUSES UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT 31st DECEMBER, 1952.

				With State Assistance	Unaided	Total
(a)	By Local Authority .. ..	..	..	64	—	64
	Newbrough	10				
	Allendale	8				
	Acomb	18				
	Ovingham	28				
(b)	By other bodies or persons .. ..	..	..	—	18	18
						<hr/> 82

SUMMARY OF POST-WAR BUILDINGS.

				No. of Houses.	No. of persons Housed.
(a)	By Council :—				
	Acomb .. ..	..	..	44	191
	Allendale .. ..	..	..	12	61
	Corbridge .. ..	..	..	48	213
	Fourstones .. ..	..	..	16	83
	Gunnerton .. ..	..	..	6	30
	Haydon Bridge .. ..	..	..	46	223
	Horsley .. ..	..	..	4	19
	Humshaugh .. ..	..	..	6	29
	Ovingham .. ..	..	..	18	83
	Slaley .. ..	..	..	12	46
	Stocksfield .. ..	..	..	22	95
	Wall .. ..	..	..	8	36
	Wylam .. ..	..	..	36	155
				<hr/> 278	<hr/> 1,264
(b)	By private persons .. ..	..	..	53	
				<hr/> 331	<hr/>

- (c) 45 additional units of accommodation have been provided by the conversion and adaptations of existing buildings.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS (Bungalows etc.) IN OVINGHAM AREA ETC.

The problem of the erections in this area has been constantly under review. The following gives a summary of events since 1948.

(1) Preliminary Investigation 1948.

The Medical Officer of Health and Chief Sanitary Inspector investigated means of dealing with this matter. The Clerk was consulted and action under the Public Health Act, 1936, by the Council considered.

The powers of the County Planning Officer under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, were investigated.

The Medical Officer of Health and Chief Sanitary Inspector contacted the County Planning Officer.

(2) Original Survey.

During May-June, 1948, a survey of the bungalows was made jointly by this Council's Public Health Department and the County Planning Officer's staff.

(3) Plans Drawn up, and Appointment of Bungalow Sub-Committee.

Plans were drawn up of all sites and considered by the Public Health Committee on 21st September, 1948. The County Planning Officer attended the meeting and suggested the approval of 3 sites to remain i.e. (1) The Hermitage (2) Whittle Mill (3) The Alders Wood. He pointed out ways of action to remove bungalows and asked for the full support of the Council in dealing with the matter.

The Council approved the 3 sites to remain and appointed a Sub-Committee to meet the County Planning Officer on the sites to consider the selection of permanent locations for the erection of bungalows.

(4) Sub-Committee meeting with the County Planning Officer.

The Sub-Committee inspected several of the existing sites with the County Planning Officer on 23rd November, 1948.

(5) Ferrylanding Site.

On 5th August, 1949, the County Planning Officer submitted plans to the Public Health Committee for amending the existing layout at Ferrylanding Field. This layout was referred to the Sub-Committee. On 16th May, 1950, the Medical Officer of Health reported that the County Planning Officer had agreed to amend his plan to suit the drainage requirements.

The Sub-Committee also recommended that the County Planning Officer should be asked to suggest suitable sites in the rural districts for the controlled erection of bungalows etc.

(6) Proposed Dean Head Site for Bungalows and Trailers under supervision of Hexham Rural District Council.

A preliminary survey and levelling of the proposed site at Dean Head was carried out on 25th August, and 1st September, 1950, in conjunction with the County Planning Officer. Later this Council completed a detailed layout for this site and on 9th December, 1952, the plan approved by the County Planning Officer, along with an estimate of costs, was placed before the Public Health Committee. It was proposed that the District Valuer be asked to advise on the value of the land to be acquired.

During the period referred to above, check surveys and serving of notices, altering and keeping up to date the records have been carried out by the Public Health Department.

Other sites at Broomhaugh ; Old Ridley, Stocksfield ; Nilston Rigg, Langley ; and Station Hotel, Corbridge, have also been surveyed, plans prepared and records made.

PART V.—SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

1.—FOOD INSPECTION.

Food.	Surrendered	Seized.	Legal Proceed-ings.
Beef	924 lbs.	—	—
Pork	17 lbs.	—	—
Bacon	39 lbs.	—	—
Tinned Meats	208 lbs.	—	—
Other tinned foods ..	47 lbs.	—	—

2.—MEAT INSPECTION.

Slaughtering is centralised and takes place at the Abattoir, Hexham. The inspection of meat and other foods exposed for sale is carried out by the Council's Sanitary Inspectors.

3.—MILK.

Sample taken for	Samples taken from retailers.		
	No. taken.	No. satisfactory.	No. unsatisfactory.
Methylene Blue Test	14	12	2
Tuberculosis	12	12	—

4.—ICE-CREAM.

Type of Sample.	Number taken	GRADING.			
		1	2	3	4
Pre-packed	28	8	13	6	1
Loose	1	—	—	—	1

The results of samples taken this year show a marked improvement. The percentage of samples which fell into the Groups 1 & 2 was 39% in 1951, whilst in 1952, it rose to 72%.

38 premises are registered for the manufacture and/or sale of ice-cream

PART VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S VISITS.

Water Supplies (General)	104
Water Supplies (Sampling)	196
Water Supplies (Chlorination)	225
Housing	167
Drainage	119
Testing of Drains	159
Privy Conversions	509
Nuisances	140
Council Houses (Allocation)	963
Council Houses (Maintenance)	405
Disinfection	5
Infectious Diseases	26
Food Premises	19
Food Inspection	15
Meat Insepection	20
Ice-cream premises	15
Ice-Cream sampling	46
Milk sampling	27
Factories	68
Moveable Dwellings	67
Scavenging	189
Sanitary Conveniences at Hotels etc.	4
Sewerage and Sewage Disposal	5
Surveying & Levelling	10
Keeping of Animals	4
Food Poisoning	3
Town & Country Planning	6
Rodent Control	2
Miscellaneous	105
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	3,623

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

Number of Factories on Register	83
Number of visits made	68
Number of defects found	8

SUMMARY OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS ETC. EFFECTED.

Improvement carried out.	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	Totals
Roofs repaired	89	136	47	17	8	5	4	306
Walls repointed or repaired	—	34	24	3	7	3	—	71
Eaves, gutters, spouts, wastes	37	62	38	4	8	13	—	162
Chimneys repaired	22	29	6	6	2	7	—	72
New windows	39	52	26	27	24	21	17	206
Ceilings renewed	75	73	51	5	12	10	3	229
Walls re-plastered	43	54	24	9	9	13	2	154
Floors repaired	62	68	45	11	10	8	3	207
Renewal of ranges	123	144	70	33	23	23	23	445
Hot water system installed	60	50	35	49	38	40	30	308
Bath installed	35	44	23	84	40	53	39	318
Bathroom provided	58	41	23	83	44	41	38	328
Lavatory basin provided	19	31	36	105	49	48	38	326
New sculleries provided ..	22	12	17	22	19	13	3	108
New sinks provided	51	44	35	29	31	35	20	245
Foodstores provided	8	10	25	18	12	5	1	79
Fuelstores provided	—	15	10	7	5	1	1	39
W.C's repaired, or renewed	—	8	1	1	2	4	6	22
Privies converted to W.C's	51	55	25	42	40	60	68	341
Privies repaired	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	3
Washing accommodation provided	7	13	7	5	2	—	—	34
Yard repaved	—	5	1	—	3	1	1	11
New drainage system pro- vided	37	45	22	27	19	20	20	190
Drainage system recon- structed	6	24	7	17	20	11	8	93
Inspection chamber pro- vided	—	—	—	65	67	94	68	294
Choked drains cleared	—	4	2	—	—	9	—	15
Septic tank and filters pro- vided	17	13	11	27	19	22	16	125
Water laid into house	40	54	24	13	19	15	16	181
New water supply	126	12	11	—	2	19	5	175
Ashpits abolished	—	—	—	2	—	14	—	16
Ashpits repaired	—	—	—	—	—	20	3	23
Dustbin provided	157	—	—	1	—	—	—	158
Additional W.C's provided	11	30	32	65	58	34	29	259
Privies abolished	29	—	—	—	—	—	—	29
Service pipes renewed	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
Blocked sewers cleared	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Urinals provided	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5

